

CLAIMS

1.- Process for the manufacture of sets of printed sheets for the preparation of books, of the type which comprises unrolling a sheet of paper from a feed roller and subsequently cutting it before it is supplied to a printing machine which then prints the bodies of text of the various sheets, characterised in that, in an electronic printing machine having a memory for the content of the texts of the various pages and electronically controllable means for determining the surface area occupied by the text and the parameters defining the text, the various bodies of text of the pages are printed with a symmetrical distribution with respect to the centre of symmetry of the sheet being printed and likewise symmetrically with respect to one or both axes of symmetry of the initial sheet which pass through the centre of symmetry thereof and which are parallel with its outer edges, varying the extent of the body of text for each page in accordance with the dimensions provided therefor, and the sheet receiving the print is subsequently reversed in order to print the bodies of text corresponding to the reverse faces of the printed sheets and then the printed sheet is folded about one or both axes of symmetry thereof, which pass through the centre of symmetry, in order to produce a set of sheets which is cut at the outer edges in accordance with the dimensions of the printed text and finally the various sets of sheets are joined and bound to form the book.

2.- Process for the manufacture of sets of printed sheets for the preparation of books according to claim 1, characterised in that the bodies of text are printed on a sheet of standard size, the folding of which about one or both axes of symmetry passing through the centre of symmetry of the sheet produces sheets of a likewise standard size.

3.- Process for the manufacture of sets of printed sheets for the preparation of books according to claim 1, characterised in that the adjustment of the parameters determining the texts and the arrangement thereof on the sheet is effected by the externally operated electronic controls of the electronic printer without stopping

the continuous process of manufacture.

4.- Set of sheets for the manufacture of books, which set is manufactured in accordance with the preceding claims, characterised in that it comprises a sheet on which the text is distributed in bodies of text which correspond respectively to pages of a book and which are arranged symmetrically with respect to the central axis of symmetry of the sheet and with respect to one or two of the axes of symmetry which pass through said centres of symmetry and which are parallel with the outer edges of the sheet, the sheet being folded about one or both axes of symmetry, respectively, if two symmetrical bodies of text are printed on each face of the sheet, or being folded about both axes if there are four bodies of text for respective pages on each face of the sheet.

5.- Process for the manufacture of sets of printed sheets for the preparation of books according to claim 1, characterised in that each sheet is printed in an off-centre manner to produce a lateral edge strip which is parallel with one of the edges, in order to enable it to be gripped by pincers after the printed sheet has been folded.

6.- Process for the manufacture of sets of printed sheets for the preparation of books according to claim 1, characterised in that the free edge strip is produced by a displacement of the base carrying the sheet along one or other of the coordinate axes of a magnitude equal to that of the desired edge strip.

7.- Process for the manufacture of sets of printed sheets for the preparation of books according to claim 1, characterised in that a sheet is arranged with its edge displaced with respect to the reference edge of the table carrying the sheet to be printed, printing being effected in accordance with the coordinate axes of said base, to produce a free edge for gripping by pincers.

8.- Process for the manufacture of sets of printed sheets for the preparation of books according to claim 1, characterised in that the off-centre arrangement of the edge is achieved by providing a shorter sheet aligned by two

opposite edges and a third edge joining the first edges, the fourth edge being misaligned and printing being effected in accordance with the axes of symmetry of the base carrying the sheets to be printed.